## Civil Justice

*Selection of site for the construction of the Court buildings at Vellore.*

* 1032 *Q.*—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have under consideration the erection of new buildings to accommodate the District and Subordinate Judge's courts as well as the court of the District Munsif, Vellore, North Arcot district;

(*b*) whether the site selected is to be either (i) in the Thottapalayam Ward of Vellore Municipality north of the Arcot Road and to the east of the new American Gosha Hospital or (ii) in the Velappadi Ward, west of the Arni Road;

(*c*) whether the Government have received a numerously signed memorial from the inhabitants of Vellore urging that the new court buildings should be located in site (i) and not in site (ii); and

(*d*) whether the Government propose to enquire into the matter and consult the convenience of the public before finally selecting the site?

*A.*—(*a*) Proposals have been received from the High Court.

(*b*) The site selected is to the west of the Arni Road.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) The site has been approved of by a site committee composed of the Collector, the District Judge, the Executive Engineer, the District Health Officer and the Chairman, Municipal Council, Vellore.

*Abolition of imprisonment for debt.*

* 1033 *Q.*—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any proposals now under the consideration of Government to amend Order XXI, Rule 40, of the Civil Procedure Code, so as to disallow imprisonment for debt under certain conditions and to reduce the period of detention of judgment-debtors to three months; and

(*b*) if so, when the Government will arrive at a decision thereon?

*A.*—(*a*) & (*b*) Rule 11 of Order XX and Rule 40 of Order XXI of the First Schedule to the Code of Civil Procedure have been amended with a view to minimising the opportunities for imposing imprisonment for debt. The question of reduction of the period of detention is under consideration by the Government of India. It is not possible to say when they will arrive at a decision in the matter.

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA:—"In answer to clauses (*a*) and (*b*), it is stated that rules 'have been amended with a view to minimising the opportunities for imposing imprisonment for debt'. Do they prohibit imprisonment for debt?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"No, Sir."

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA:—"May I know, Sir, what explicitly is meant by 'minimising the opportunities'?"